

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 6979

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR NATO

SUBJECT: ELECTRONIC WARFARE (EW) TRAINING IN NATO EXERCISE
OCEAN SAFARI

SUMMARY: AT SECOND MEETING OF THE AD HOC GROUP ON THE PROVISION
OF ELECTRONIC WARFARE TRAINING SERVICES (AC/296) ON 19
DEC 75, SACLANT REP REPORTED INITIAL SACLANT EVALUATION OF EW
TRAINING ACHIEVED IN EXERCISE OCEAN SAFARI. REPORT CONCLUDED
THAT, IN VIEW OF URGENT REQUIREMENT FOR THIS TYPE TRAINING AND
CONSIDERING THE IMPROVED QUALITY OF TRAINING MADE POSSIBLE,
NATO FUNDING FOR USE OF US NC-121K EW AIRCRAFT WAS JUSTIFIED.
END SUMMARY.

1. EW OBJECTIVES IN OCEAN SAFARI WERE TO (A) EXERCISE AND TEST
CAPABILITY OF NATO ELECTROMAGNETIC SYSTEMS TO FUNCTION
IN WARTIME ENVIRONMENT, (B) EXERCISE AND TEST EW COORDINATION
PROCEDURES, (C) EXERCISE AND TEST ABILITY OF FLEET, FORCE,
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AND UNIT COMMANDERS TO MAINTAIN COMMAND AND CONTROL
OF DEFENSIVE ASSETS IN SIMULATED HOSTILE ELECTROMAGNETIC
ENVIRONMENT, AND (D) PROVIDE EXERCISE AND TRAINING FOR FORCES
WHEN SUBJECTED TO ELECTRONIC COUNTERMEASURES.

2. DETAILED ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION OF SPECIFIC EW ASPECTS OF EXERCISE SHOULD BE COMPLETED BY END FEBRUARY 1976. INITIAL QUALITATIVE EVALUATION OF EW PLAY INDICATES THAT EW OBJECTIVES WERE ACHIEVED.

3. EW AIRCRAFT PARTICIPATING INCLUDED ONE NORWEGIAN FALCON, THREE USN CARRIER BASED EA-6B, SIX TO EIGHT UK CANBERRA T-17, AND ONE USN NC-121K SUPER CONSTELLATION. ALL WERE PROVIDED WITHOUT CHARGE EXCEPT THE NC-121K, WHICH WAS NOT INTEGRAL TO NATIONAL FORCES PARTICIPATING AND WAS THEREFORE NATO FUNDED.

4. THE FALCON FLEW JAMMING MISSIONS AGAINST THE NAVAL FORCES. THE CARRIER BASED EA-6B AIRCRAFT JAMMED LAND BASED RADARS IN SUPPORT OF CARRIER LAUNCHED AIR ATTACKS. THE CANBERRAS JAMMED SHIPBOARD RADARS AND COMMUNICATIONS AND SUPPLIED SCREENING JAMMING FOR AIRCRAFT ATTACHING THE FLEET. THE NC-121K ADDED A NEW DIMENSION TO EW IN NATO MARITIME EXERCISES. IN THE ROLE OF EW MISSION CONTROL AIRCRAFT, IT LOCATED RADAR AND COMMUNICATIONS TARGETS AND PASSED TARGET INFORMATION TO THE CANBERRAS, FURNISHING INFORMATION WHICH ALLOWED CANBERRA JAMMERS TO BE TUNED ACCURATELY TO TARGET FREQUENCIES. THE NC-121K ALSO EMPLOYED MULTIPLE JAMMERS WITH HIGH POWER COVERAGE OVER A WIDE RANGE OF RADAR AND COMMUNICATIONS FREQUENCIES.

5. INITIAL EVALUATION IS THAT, WITHOUT QUESTION, CAPABILITIES OF THE NC-121K GREATLY IMPROVED THE QUALITY OF EW TRAINING AND CONTRIBUTED SUBSTANTIALLY TO ELIMINATION OF DEFICIENCIES IN EW TRAINING NOTED IN EARLIER MARITIME EXERCISES. COST FOR NC-121K PARTICIPATION WAS APPROXIMATELY EIGHTY SEVEN THOUSAND US DOLLARS, PROVIDING 59 HOURS OF EW MISSIONS. COST ALSO COVERED REDEPLOYMENT OF AIRCRAFT, MAINTENANCE CREW AND EQUIPMENT.

6. SACLANC CONCLUDES QUOTE IN VIEW OF THE URGENT REQUIREMENT FOR THIS TYPE OF TRAINING AS STATED IN MCM-6-75, AND CONSIDERING THE QUALITY OF TRAINING WHICH WAS MADE POSSIBLE, IT IS CONSIDERED THAT NATO FUNDING OF THIS TRAINING ASSET WAS WELL CONFIDENTIAL

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JUSTIFIED. END QUOTE.

7. WE CONSIDER THIS TO BE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE WORK OF THE AD HOC GROUP AS IT IS THE FIRST TANGIBLE EVIDENCE OF THE BENEFITS WHICH MAY BE MADE POSSIBLE BY DISCRIMINATE NATO FUNDING IN SUPPORT OF EW TRAINING. WE NOTE THAT NORWAY, US AND UK PROVIDED EW AIRCRAFT AT NO COST TO NATO WHEN THOSE AIRCRAFT WERE READILY AVAILABLE AT NO UNUSUAL COST TO THE NATIONS. SACLANC EXPENDED NATO FUNDS ONLY FOR THE HIGHLY SPECIALIZED NC-121K WHICH HAD TO BE DEPLOYED FROM THE US FOR THIS EXERCISE. BRUCE

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